

A NEW SPECIES OF *DRYMUS* FIEBER FROM MEXICO, WITH A KEY TO SPECIES AND A CHECKLIST OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRYMINI (HEMIPTERA: LYGAEIDAE)

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Abstract.—The first Mexican species of *Drymus* Fieber, is described as *Drymus mexicanus*, n. sp., from the mountains of the state of Veracruz. A key to the Western Hemisphere species is included together with a list of the Western Hemisphere species of the tribe Drymini. A discussion of the distribution of the tribe is given and the affinities of the Nearctic fauna analyzed.

Key Words: *Drymus*, Mexico, biogeography, distribution, checklist

The zoogeography of the Rhyparochrominae was reviewed in detail by Slater (1986). In that paper he noted the interesting distribution of the members of the tribe Drymini and how closely the overall distribution paralleled that of the tribe Rhyparochromini. Both of these tribes are abundant, diverse and speciose in the Palearctic, Ethiopian-Oriental (= Paleotropical) and Australian regions. However, both make up only a very small proportion of the Nearctic rhyparochromine fauna and both are absent from the true Neotropical Region (including the West Indies). Of the Nearctic fauna most species belong to genera that are also found in the Palearctic.

The Drymini tend to be associated with woodland margins and to live in moderately mesic habitats. The Rhyparochromini occur for the most part in relatively dry savannah-like habitats.

The absence from the Neotropics of Drymini, despite their abundance in Africa, suggests a radiation subsequent to 90 million years b.p. or subsequent to the

breakup of West Gondwanaland. It also suggests that despite the abundance of the Drymini in Australia they are relatively recent elements in that fauna since there was apparently no movement of such a fauna across Antarctica (and because there are no native species in New Zealand). The most plausible scenario for the occurrence of Drymini in the Western Hemisphere appears to be as a Holarctic element that was present during, or before, the onset of the Pleistocene. If this is true, it means that two taxa have been able to reach generic status during this period (both of which are confined to areas of California that escaped glaciation).

The Mexican drymine fauna is found in montane areas and all species are members of genera also found in the United States and Canada as well as in the Palearctic. *Drymus* is the most unusual of these in that the two previously known species are known from only a few localities in the western United States.

All measurements are in millimeters.

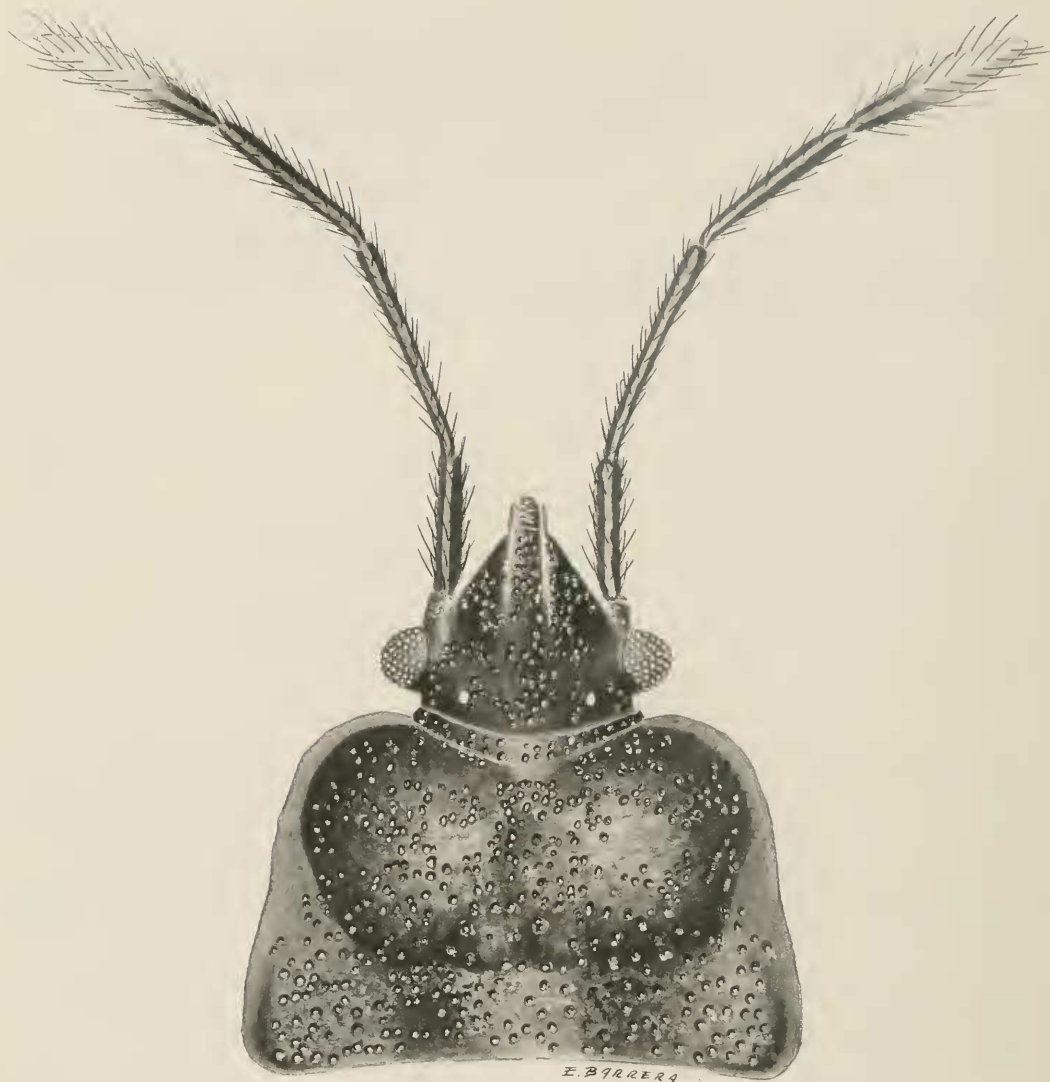


Fig. 1. *Drymus mexicanus*. Dorsal view, head and pronotum.

***Drymus mexicanus*, Slater and
Brailovsky, new species**
(Figs. 1, 2)

Robust, subelliptical. Head, anterior pronotal lobe, scutellum and antennae dark chocolate brown, almost black. Explanate pronotal margins, posterior pronotal lobe, entire hemelytron, legs and labium dull reddish-brown. Fourth antennal segment with apical two-thirds white. Coarsely punctate over entire surface except wing membrane,

the punctures on head and anterior pronotal lobe relatively small.

Head acuminate, non-declivent; tylus attaining distal one third of first antennal segment; vertex convex. Eyes set well away from anterior margin of pronotum. Length head 0.84, width 1.00, interocular space 0.82. Pronotal calli confluent or nearly so, mesally, elevated above surface of posterior lobe. Lateral pronotal margins broadly explanate (Fig. 1); posterior margin of pronotum shallowly concave. Length pron-

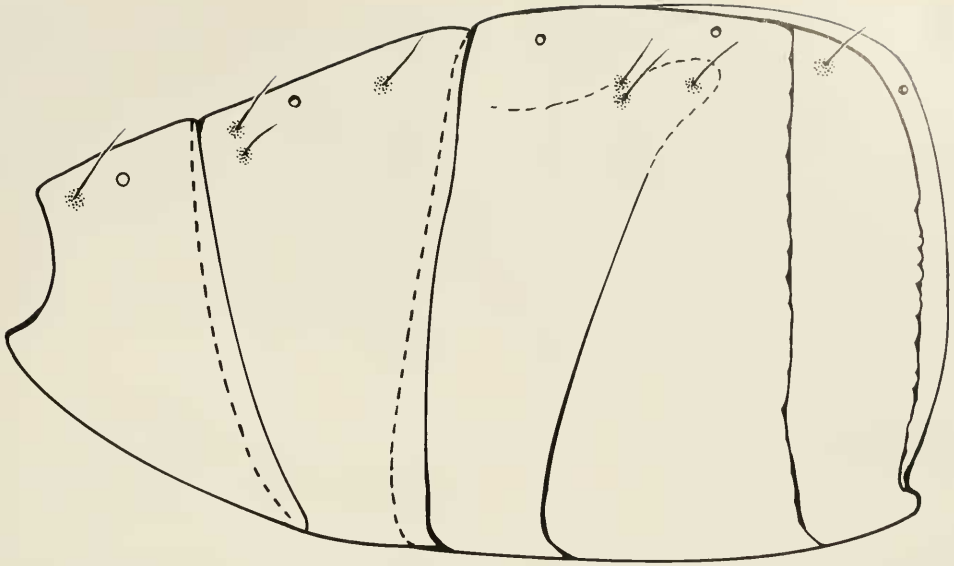


Fig. 2. *Drymus mexicanus*. Abdomen, lateral view.

tum 1.20, width 2.00. Scutellum with a median elevation distally, mesally concave on basal half. Length scutellum 1.12, width 1.20. Hemelytra with lateral margins broadly convex. Clavus with four rows of punctures. Length claval commissure 0.60. Midline distance apex clavus-apex corium 1.24. Midline distance apex corium-apex membrane 0.64. Metathoracic scent gland auricle curved posteriorly. Evaporative area only slightly exceeding end of auricle, distally truncate, covering only mesal one-third to one-fourth of metapleuron. Fore femur only moderately incrassate, armed below on distal one fourth with a short sharp spine with three minute spines distad. Labium extending to metacoxae, first segment not attaining base of head. Length labial segments I 0.62, II 0.70, III 0.54, IV 0.44 (approx.). Length antennal segments I 0.50, II 0.80, III 0.62, IV 0.68. Total body length 5.65.

All abdominal spiracles located below sternal shelf. Posterior pair of trichobothria on sternum four located dorsoventrally, the ventral trichobothrium reduced and obsolete (Fig. 2).

Holotype ♀ MEXICO: Veracruz: Na-

olinco, 1.VIII.1977, 2100 m. In Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico collection.

This is a very distinctive species at once separable from the other Western Hemisphere species by the white distal portion of the fourth antennal segment, the much more strongly explanate lateral pronotal margins, and the shorter antennae. Actually this is not the only species of *Drymus* with a pale distal end to the fourth antennal segment; several Palearctic species have a somewhat paler apex on segment four, although none that we have examined have a white terminal end to the antennae.

KEY TO WESTERN HEMISPHERE SPECIES OF *DRYMUS*

1. Distal half of fourth antennal segment white, strongly contrasting with dark coloration of basal half of antennae; explanate margins of pronotum broad, subequal to width of second antennal segment; second antennal segment subequal in length to length of head *mexicanus* n. sp.
- Fourth antennal segment unicolorous dark brown to black; explanate lateral pronotal margins relatively narrow, much narrower than width of second antennal segment; second an-

- tenal segment considerably longer than length of head 2
2. Large (6.5–7 mm); very dark almost black; anterior and posterior pronotal lobes nearly evenly punctate; expanded lateral margins of pronotum concolorous with dorsal surface of pronotum *crassus* Van Duzee
- Smaller (rarely over 5 mm); dull brown; anterior pronotal lobe more finely punctate than posterior lobe; expanded lateral margins of pronotum usually slightly paler than surface of pronotum *unus* (Say)

CHECKLIST OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE
DRYMINI

See Slater 1964 and Slater and O'Donnell 1995 for complete references.

Drymus Fieber

- crassus* Van Duzee 1910. New England south to Florida, west to Texas and South Dakota.
- mexicanus*, n. sp. Mexico.
- unus* (Say) 1831. Eastern Canada, south to North Carolina, west to Colorado.

Eremocoris Fieber

- arnaudi* Brailovsky 1982. Mexico.
- borealis* (Dallas) 1852. Western U.S.A.
- canadensis* Walley 1929. British Columbia; Idaho.
- chalmaensis* Brailovsky and Barrera 1981. Mexico.
- cupressicola* Ashlock 1979. California.
- depressus* Barber 1928. New England south to Florida and Louisiana coastal areas.
- dimidiatus* Van Duzee 1921. Colorado.
- extremus* Brailovsky and Cervantes 1989. Mexico.
- ferus* (Say) 1832. Widespread over much of U.S.A. and southern Canada.
- garciai* Brailovsky and Barrera 1981. Mexico.
- guerrerenensis* Brailovsky and Barrera 1981. Mexico.
- inquilinus* Van Duzee 1914. California.
- legionarius* Brailovsky and Barrera 1981. Mexico.
- lopezformenti* Brailovsky and Barrera 1981. Mexico.

- melanotus* Walley 1929. British Columbia; Idaho.
- mimbresianus* Brailovsky and Cervantes 1989. Mexico.
- obscurus* Van Duzee 1906. California; Idaho; British Columbia.
- opacus* Van Duzee 1921. California.
- sbmicinctus* Van Duzee 1921. California; Idaho.
- setosus* Blatchley 1926. Eastern U.S.A.
- squalidus* Brailovsky and Barrera 1981. Mexico.

Gastrodes Westwood

- arizonensis* Usinger 1938. Arizona.
- conicolus* Usinger 1933. California.
- intermedius* Usinger 1938. British Columbia.
- pacificus* (Provancher) 1886. Nebraska and Colorado, west to California and British Columbia.
- walleyi* Usinger 1938. Ontario, British Columbia.

Scolopostethus Fieber

- atlanticus* Horvath 1893. Northern U.S.A. and southern Canada; Newfoundland to British Columbia south to New Jersey and New Mexico.
- diffidens* Horvath 1893. Northern U.S.A. and southern Canada: Nova Scotia to British Columbia south to New Jersey.
- pacificus* Barber 1918. California, Idaho, British Columbia.
- thomsoni* Reuter 1874. Almost throughout Holarctic.
- tropicus* (Distant) 1882. California to Guatemala.

Thylochromus Barber

- nitidulus* Barber 1928. California.

Togodolentus Barber

- wrighti* (Van Duzee) 1914. California.

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